

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2239**  
ANSWERED ON 02.08.2023

**NMET**

†2239. SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total percentage of production capacity augmented each year in the mining sector during the last nine years, year-wise along with the details thereof; and
- (b) the works being carried out for expediting the activities of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) along with the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS  
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a): Production of keyminerals under the ambit of Mineral Conservation and Development Rules (MCDR) has increased during the last nine years reflecting augmented production capacity of these minerals. Production of most of these minerals is sufficient to meet the requirements of the domestic user industries such as steel, aluminium and cement. The year-wise quantity of production of these minerals and their compound annual growth rates (CAGR) over the period 2014-15 to 2022-23 are given at Annexure.

(b): The details of works being carried out for expediting the activities of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) are as under:

(1) Apart from 25 Government and public sector Notified Exploration Agencies, 14 Private Exploration Agencies have been notified. 11 projects have already been sanctioned to Notified Private Exploration Agencies.

(2) First installment of fund is being released as advance to Exploration Agencies along with sanction order of the projects sanctioned.

(3) Financial assistance is being given to the State Directorates of Geology and Mining to strengthen their infrastructure for carrying out exploration activities.

(4) The meeting of Technical Cum Cost Committee is being held every month and Executive Committee meeting is being held every quarter or earlier as may be required to expedite sanction of projects.

(5) Meetings are held periodically to monitor and review the progress of works and resolve issues, if any.

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## Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of LS USQ No. †2239 answered on 02.08.2023 regarding 'NMET'

### Production of key MCDR minerals during 2014-15 to 2022-23

Mineral name	Quantity of production (million metric ton)									CAGR (%)
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (P)	
Iron ore	129.32	158.11	194.58	201.42	206.49	244.08	205.04	253.97	257.86	9.0
Limestone	293.27	307.00	314.67	340.42	379.97	359.46	349.12	387.19	406.16	4.2
Chromite	2.16	2.92	3.73	3.48	3.97	3.93	2.83	3.79	3.56	6.4
Gold ore	0.45	0.56	0.58	0.55	0.57	0.60	0.44	0.47	0.63	4.4
Lead & Zinc ore	9.36	10.45	11.88	12.61	13.75	14.48	15.46	16.34	16.74	7.5
Bauxite	22.49	28.12	24.75	22.79	23.69	21.83	20.38	22.29	23.84	0.7
Lead concentrate	0.20	0.26	0.27	0.31	0.36	0.35	0.38	0.37	0.38	8.4
Manganese ore	2.37	2.17	2.40	2.60	2.83	2.91	2.70	2.65	2.83	2.2
Zinc concentrate	1.49	1.47	1.48	1.54	1.46	1.45	1.51	1.59	1.67	1.4

Source: Indian Bureau of Mines (MCDR returns)

P: Provisional